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~~56~~. The punching machine according to claim ²⁹~~55~~, wherein the first positioning device and the second positioning device are constructed in a manner such that the first positioning device and the second positioning device may alternately position the workpiece in the first direction.--

³¹
~~57~~. The punching machine according to claim ²⁹~~55~~, further comprising a clutch connecting the first positioning device to the second positioning devices so that the first and the second positioning devices transfer the workpiece in the first direction simultaneously.--

IN THE ABSTRACT:

A substitute Abstract is attached hereto on a separate sheet.

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Approval is hereby requested for the drawing changes shown in red ink to Figs. 1, 4 and 5.

REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment cancels claims 1-9 and adds new claims 36-57. Claims 36, 43, 47 and 54 are independent. As a result, claims 36-57 are now pending.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place the application into better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants'

attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Please charge any shortage of fees or credit any overpayment thereof to BLANK ROME COMISKY & McCAULEY LLP, Deposit Account No. 23-2185 (0004.609/P). In the event that a petition for a separate petition for an extension of time does not accompany this Amendment, Applicants herewith petition under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) for an extension of time for as many months as are required to render this Amendment timely. Any fee due is authorized above.

Respectfully submitted,

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